どうぶつ
動物の
お医者
さん

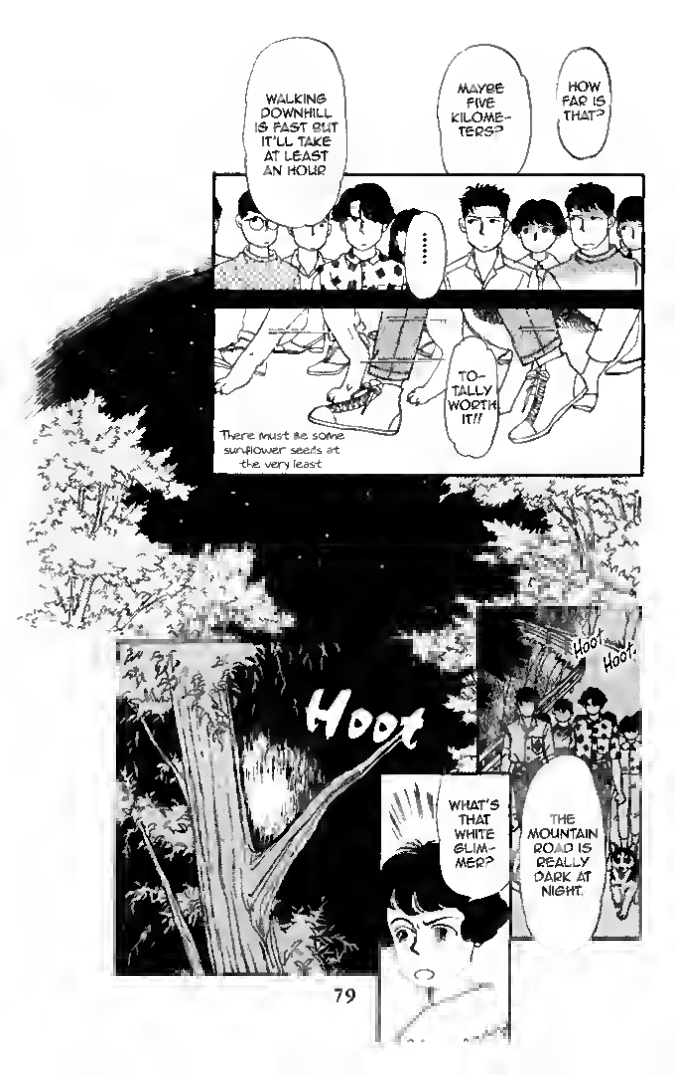
IT'S TEN MORE HOURS UNTIL BREAK-FAST.
I'M STARV-ING...
The field practice continues.
T-CITY ANIMAL PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH CENTER
The center's food made a bad impression from the very first meal.
IT TASTES TERRIBLE
Hamutaru, you brought Chobi's food, didn't you?
Dude, it's dog food
This took place on the second night.
JUST GO TO BED. YOU WON'T FEEL HUNGER IN YOUR SLEEP.
THE POINT IS THAT WE'RE TOO HUNGRY TO SLEEP!!

But she came from outside.
The center's cook?
STOMP STOMP
When it's close to meal time, an unknown elderly lady would march in with groceries and whip up some food which, they all agree, isn't the easiest to swallow.
IT'S TOUGH COOKING FOR 40 PEOPLE DON'T EXPECT ANYTHING FANCY. BE GRATEFUL THAT THE CENTER LET YOU IMPOSE ON THEM
GIVE ME MORE
THIS IS ALL WE HAVE!
And the portions are small.
The students take turns serving food
She thought they looked cute eating leftover veggie and bread crumbs.
LET'S CALL HER A-KO
SHE GOT THREE BLACK RATS FROM HER BIOLOGY TEACHER
They're all male so they wouldn't reproduce.
THEY'RE NOT CUTE AT ALL!
Rat's ROX
THERE WAS A HIGH-SCHOOL GIRL
Luckily, the first night they had the many snacks they brought along. These kept them perked up enough to share horror stories.

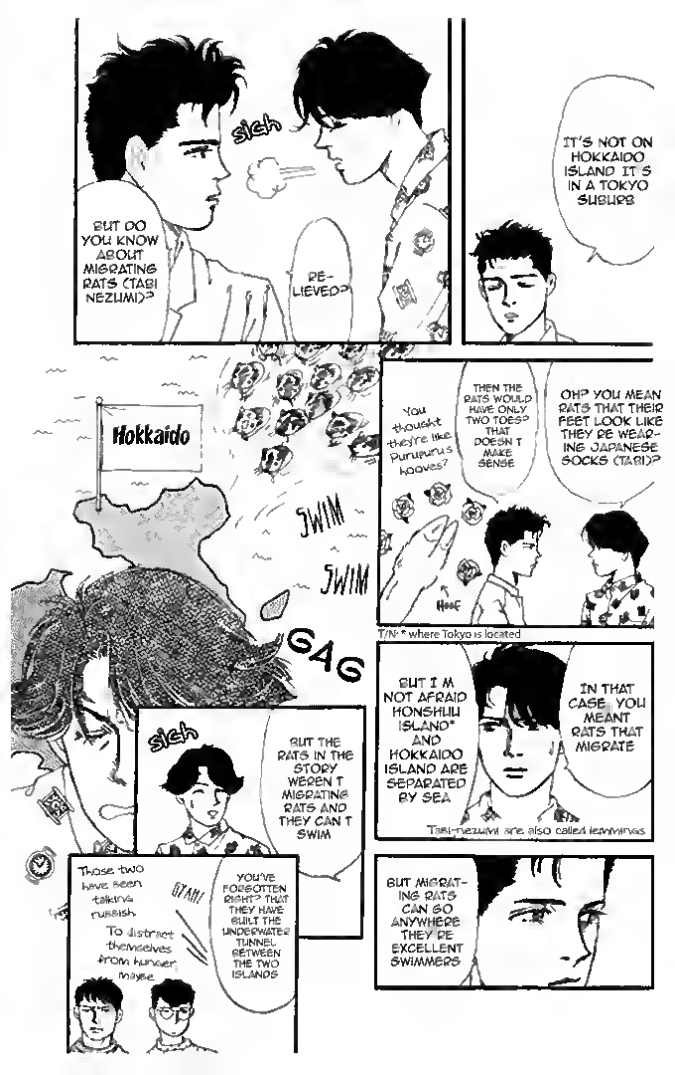
Because they did not know the horror of rat proliferation ..
At that time, A-ko's family still adored them.
Aww so tiny!
It wasn't long until she learned that of the three, two were actually females.
HOW WOULD I KNOW?! ONLY MORONS KEEP RATS!
SHE WAS VERY UPSET AND TOOK THE RATS OUT AT NIGHT
mmm
A CAGE PACKED WITH RATS EEWW!
HOW DO YOU THINK SHE RESOLVED THAT PROBLEM?
AND LEFT THEM IN A PARK
CREAK
CREAK
GAG!
The rats kept on multiplying. They were moved from e bird cage to a rabbit cage. Their food bill skyrocketed, driving the family to despair
There were more than 50 rats.

But if you dump them all at once, they might crawl around all over your feet. So she left 5 to 6 of them at various spots.
A FEW DAYS LATER, THERE WAS A REPORT OF LARGE WHITE RATS RUNNING AMOK IN THE PARK.
WHERE IS THAT PARK?!
That was an example of a horror story (for Nikaidou only, maybe) that they shared.
That's a horror story?
How?
Because Nikaidou is the only one who hates and fears rats.
They live and study in Sapporo
IS IT IN SAPPORO?!
OH, WHO KNOWS WHERE IT IS
I COULD EAT A SHEEP
How about sowing some radish seeds?
Yams would be better
THAT'S TRUE. WE HAVE TO FIND MORE FOOD ON OUR OWN
I had no idea how hungry I would be
IF I HAD KNOWN, I WOULDN'T HAVE WASTED MY ENERGY ON THAT LAME GAME
By the second night, all the snacks had been consumed. They were also exhausted from the shearing practice and most of the students were downcast.

I want to eat a sheep
LET'S GO DOWN-STAIRS AND DRINK COFFEE
WITH LOADS OF SUGAR
I COULD EVEN EAT PURU-PURU
BUT THE SHEEP HERE AREN'T RAISED FOR MEAT
PURUPURU
murmur murmur
CROWD
SO HUNGRY!
CROWD
CROWD
They can have as much tea and coffee as they want
I FEEL LIKE IT MADE ME HUNGRI-ER
ISN'T THERE ANY PLACE THAT SELLS FOOD AROUND HERE?
FAT CHANCE IT'S HARD TO FIND A HOUSE LET ALONE A SHOP
And at this hour
THAT'S RIGHT I SAW IT TOO
YOU MEAN ON THE BUS ROUTE?
BUT I SAW A VENDING MACHINE ON THE WAY HERE

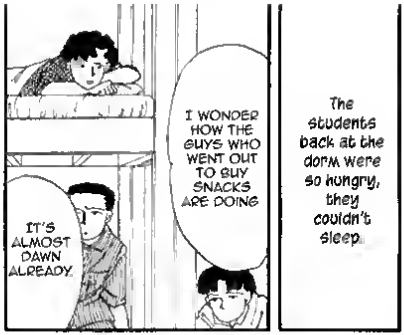

HOW FAR IS THAT?
MAYBE FIVE KILOMETERS?
WALKING DOWNHILL IS FAST BUT IT'LL TAKE AT LEAST AN HOUR
.....
TOTALLY WORTH IT!!
There must be some sunflower seeds at the very least
Hoot
Hoot!
Hoot!
THE MOUNTAIN ROAD IS REALLY DARK AT NIGHT.
WHAT'S THAT WHITE GLIMMER?

FLAP
EEK!
FWOOSH
SO THERE'S A SUPER-MARKET AROUND HERE?!
AWW IT'S JUST A SUPER-MARKET'S PLASTIC BAG
NOPE THAT'S JUST THE ONE I THREW OUT OF THE BUS ON THE WAY HERE
Even if there was a supermarket it would have closed by now
You gave me false hope!
Litterbug!
HAMUTERU, ABOUT THE RATS' STORY
WELL.. YEAH
ARE YOU SURE?
.....
YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW?
So scary
YOU KNOW WHERE THEY WERE LET LOOSE RIGHT?

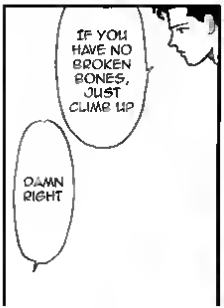

sigh
BUT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MIGRATING RATS (TABI NEZUMI)?
BE-LIEVED?
IT'S NOT ON HOKKAIDO ISLAND IT'S IN A TOKYO SUBURB
Hokkaido
SWIM
SWIM
GAG
You thought they're like Purupuru's hooves?
THEN THE RATS WOULD HAVE ONLY TWO TOES? THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE
OH? YOU MEAN RATS THAT THEIR FEET LOOK LIKE THEY'RE WEARING JAPANESE SOCKS (TABI)?
Hooc
T/N: * where Tokyo is located
BUT I'M NOT AFRAID HONSHUU ISLAND* AND HOKKAIDO ISLAND ARE SEPARATED BY SEA
IN THAT CASE, YOU MEANT RATS THAT MIGRATE
Tabi-nezumi are also called lemmings
sigh
BUT THE RATS IN THE STORY WEREN'T MIGRATING RATS AND THEY CAN'T SWIM
Those two have been talking rubbish.
To distract themselves from hunger, maybe.
OTAH!
YOU'VE FORGOTTEN RIGHT? THAT THEY HAVE BUILT THE UNDERWATER TUNNEL BETWEEN THE TWO ISLANDS
BUT MIGRATING RATS CAN GO ANYWHERE THEY'RE EXCELLENT SWIMMERS

I'll be here.
One by one they gave up
TOO TIRED TO WALK WE'LL WAIT TOO
WE'LL BUY SOME-THING FOR YOU..
I'M TOO HUNGRY TO WALK ANOTHER STEP I'LL WAIT HERE
AREN'T THEY SLOW?
Right? Hey...you?
Hoot Hoot
IT'S BEEN TWO HOURS
Okay. In northern Europe...they believe that rats spawn from clouds
Keep talking while we walk
At the end, all that's left are two men and a dog.

But the shorter path didn't make them faster.
MAYBE WE SHOULD TAKE A SHORTCUT
I REMEMBER THAT THE VENDING MACHINE WAS RIGHT AFTER THE BIG CURVE
Apparently Hamotetsu and Nikaidou aren't on the bus route anymore.
An empty stomach will addle your brain.
We're lost
.....
tumble tumble tumble
BUT WE MUST BE ALMOST THERE NOW
LET'S BACK-TRACK
MAYBE IT IS SOME-WHERE AROUND HERE
SLIP


The students back at the dorm were so hungry, they couldn't sleep.
I WONDER HOW THE GUYS WHO WENT OUT TO BUY SNACKS ARE DOING
IT'S ALMOST DAWN ALREADY.

T/N Those are bones an mals have in their tails and w.ngs



CHIPS
SNACKS
Choc
No wonder he looked like a sick lady on the way here.
So many!
BECAUSE I KNOW HOW TERRIBLE THE FOOD HERE IS
HMM? WHAT?
PROFESSOR, PLEASE WAKE UP!! SOMETHING BAD MUST HAVE HAPPENED!
BANG
BANG
huff
huff
CRACK
Slip
Slip
Slip
Slip
Slip
Slip
IT'S MORE DANGER-OUS THAN I THOUGHT

WHAT IF THE RATS COME OUT?!
H-HEY! ARE YOU GONNA LEAVE ME HERE?
WAIT I'LL FIND SOME ROPE OR VINE
I'LL LEAVE CHOBI WITH YOU IF THE RATS COME OUT, TELL CHOBI
CHOBI, YOU CAN TAKE ON RATS, RIGHT?
I dunno
But I'm not going down there for sure

RUSTLE
WE NEED TO FIND THEM BEFORE SOMETHING HAPPENS
Meanwhile, on the way to search for Hamotaro and Nikaidou, the professor and the students from the dorm came to meet with those who were waiting.
DID YOU BUY SNACKS?
BUT DO YOU HAVE ANY ROPE?
NOT YET..
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
EH? NIKAIDOU FELL OFF THE CLIFF?
BUT HE'S FINE DON'T WORRY
I THINK I SAW A HOUSE ON OUR WAY HERE.
LIGHT ON
AWESOME THERE'S SOMEONE HERE
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

Food tops finding a rope.
WE'RE SORRY, SIR BUT COULD YOU PLEASE SPARE US SOME FOOD?
.....
Eat up
For which Hamutaro's underclassmen have been forever grateful.
Tha story spread around the research center like wildfire, and brought immeasurable embarrassment to the professor
Decisions were made to improve the quality of the meals during the field practice period starting the following year
The professor didn't get there in time and things had gone out of hand.
WHAT KIND OF FIELD PRACTICE DID YOU MAKE THE KIDS DO?!
HOW COULD THEY NOT HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT?
H-UNIVERSITY'S VETERINARY SCHOOL?
OF SAPPORO?
OH MY!
GOBBLE GOBBLE GOBBLE GOBBLE GOBBLE

Doubutsu no Oishasan

by SASAKI Noriko

Translated by : Chihaya
Proof-read by : ruffypws
Cleaned by : Shrubbery
Typeset by : Meifeng
QCed by : yambasket